

REMARKS

The indication that claim 3 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, is acknowledged. By the present amendment, the features of the "wherein" clause of claim 3 have been incorporated into independent claim 1 while deleting the "wherein" clause of claim 1 since the Examiner has contended that all of the features of claim 1, as originally presented, are rendered obvious by the cited art. Thus, by the present amendment, applicants submit that claim 1, as amended to delete the wherein clause thereof and to substitute therefor, the wherein clause of claim 3 which has been objected to, claim 1, as amended, should now be in condition for allowance.

Furthermore, by the present amendment, the wherein clause which has been deleted from claim 1 has been presented in new dependent claim 11, which depends from claim 1, independent claim 2 has been amended to be in dependent form dependent from claim 1, with claim 3 being canceled, and claims 4 - 10, which have been objected to, have been amended to be in proper dependent form, including multiple dependent form, where appropriate. Since all of these claims depend from claim 1, which should now be in condition for allowance, applicants submit that all claims present in this application should now be in condition for allowance.

With respect to the objection to the title, by the present amendment, the title of the invention has been amended to recite the feature of "three pressure members" such that the title is now more clearly indicative of the claimed invention. Additionally, a new abstract has been provided which now recites features corresponding to that presented in independent claim 1 as amended and the abstract is more clearly indicative of the claimed invention.

With respect to the drawings, although the Examiner has approved the drawings submitted in this application, it is noted that the drawings as submitted apparently included Japanese language designations with the corresponding English language being provided. Submitted herewith are replacement sheets for all drawings and applicants request acceptance of the replacement sheets which are in better form for issuance purposes.

As to the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wayman et al (5,483,331) in view of Mohri et al (6,233,424), this rejection is considered to be obviated by the incorporation of the features of objected claim 3 into claim 1, which features of claim 3, as recognized by the Examiner are not disclosed or taught in the cited art and the amendment of claim 2 to depend from claim 1, as amended. Thus, applicants submit that claims 1 and 2, as amended should now be in condition for allowance and a discussion of the cited in relation thereto is considered unnecessary.

With respect to dependent claims 4 - 10 which were objected to as being in improper form, as noted above, claims 4 - 10 have been amended to properly depend from claim 1 or other claims in single or multiple dependent form and since such claims are dependent upon an allowable claim, such claims, as well as new dependent claim 11 should now be in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all claims present in this application should now be in condition for allowance and issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli,

Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 520.42892X00),
and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figs. 1 - 17. These sheets, which include Figs. 1 - 17, replaces the original sheets which included Japanese language designations.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet